



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

648 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

MARY C. WICKHAM
County Counsel

July 7, 2016

TELEPHONE
(213) 974-1609
FACSIMILE
(213) 626-2105
TDD
(213) 633-0901
E-MAIL
rgranbo@counsel.lacounty.gov

TO: LORI GLASGOW
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: ROGER H. GRANBO *RGH*
Senior Assistant County Counsel
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Daniel Vos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 522 637

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

RHG:scr

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Daniel Vos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 522 637 in the amount of \$400,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Children and Family Services' budget.

This lawsuit alleges plaintiffs' civil rights were violated when the Department of Children and Family Services deprived them of a fair chance to adopt their granddaughter based on allegations of misconduct.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Daniel Vos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.
CASE NUMBER	BC 522637
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court
DATE FILED	September 27, 2013
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Children and Family Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ \$400,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Law Offices of Donnie R. Cox
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Danielle Drossel
NATURE OF CASE	Lawsuit by plaintiffs Daniel and Carol Vos, against the County and two employees of the Department of Children and Family Services. The Plaintiffs are the paternal grandparents of seven-year-old Shawn. The plaintiffs claim that they were deprived of a "fair chance" to adopt their granddaughter. The lawsuit alleges six causes of action, including violation of the Civil Rights Act, 42 United States Code section 1983, violation of State civil rights statutes, and Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress.
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 230,610
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 68,202

Case Name: Vos vs. County of Los Angeles, et al.



Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	April 26, 2011
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	The Plaintiffs allege their civil rights were violated when the Department misrepresented facts, failed to inform them when their grandchild was removed from her mother, and did not give them preferential consideration for her placement.

1. Briefly describe the root cause(s) of the claim/lawsuit:

Alleged failure to inform plaintiffs, in violation of Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 361.3.


2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)


DCFS had relevant policies and procedures in effect at the time of the incident and maintains a practice of enhancing/revising its policies to ensure compliance with the state of the law. The department utilizes a number of systemic methods for informing the workforce about such policy and regulation changes.

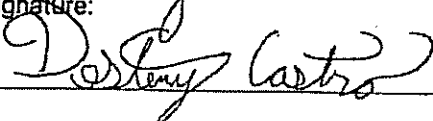
All personnel actions have been addressed.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

- The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.
✓ The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)	
DIANE IGLESIAS, SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
Signature: 	Date: 3.15.16

Name: (Department Head)	
PHILIP L. BROWNING, DIRECTOR	
Signature: 	Date:

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY	
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.	
Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)	
Destiny Castro	
Signature: 	Date: 3/10/2016